

# SPECIAL PLACES

A Newsletter of The Trustees of Reservations

Volume 2, Issue No. 3, Summer 1994



Trustees' President Al Creighton discusses the history of the North River as Director Fred Winthrop and other special guests wait for a boat to ferry them to the proposed Two Mile Reservation.

## South Shore donors attend sneak preview

Nearly 100 enthusiastic boosters of Two Mile Reservation got a sneak preview of the North Marshfield property on Sunday, June 12th at a gathering sponsored by Herb and Paulie Emilson. Spirits were high, despite rain showers, as guests were ferried up the North River in pontoon boats skippered by volunteers Joe and Gail Polsinello and Lee and Pat McCarthy. Visitors disembarked at the dock, loaned for the occasion by Michael and Susan Wolfe, and enjoyed a short walk through the property. This event was in the best tradition of The Trustees, carried out by volunteers, down to the floral decorations that were arranged by Patricia Abbott.

The gift of Gail Whelan, the 68 acres of land proposed as Two Mile Reservation is held by the Massachusetts Land Conservation Trust (MLCT), The Trustees' affiliate for land transactions. The Trustees need to raise \$75,000 to support startup costs and to

## Bryant Homestead readies for 200th

This summer the William Cullen Bryant Homestead in Cummington will see the completion of a major restoration project, just in time for the 200th anniversary of Bryant's birth. The culmination of research begun four years ago, the project addresses serious structural problems and returns the exterior of the house to its appearance in the 1890s, when family and public interest in the property as a shrine to the poet first peaked. Visitors to the Homestead this year will see the house rejuvenated with a new wood shingle roof, and most noticeably, an historically accurate paint color scheme determined through paint analysis: putty-colored clapboards with chocolate brown trim. Less visible but equally important is the extensive work undertaken to strengthen the foundation, reduce moisture penetration into the basement, and upgrade electrical systems.

Coordinated by Superintendent Jim Caffrey, the Homestead project has drawn on the talents of many individuals. In 1991, Yale University architecture student Shannon Sanders prepared measured drawings of the house, of such quality that a set of them was accepted by the Historic American Buildings Survey in Washington. Ms. Sanders worked with local preservation architect Scott Heyl of Worthington to analyze the evolution of the structure, confirming that Bryant did, in fact, incorporate his grandfather's farmhouse into his 1865 renovations, raising the original house up to the second floor level and building a new first floor under it, as had long been supposed. A survey of environmental and structural conditions in 1992 by historic buildings engineer Ernest Conrad specified needs for a new roof, gutters and improved surface drainage, and attention to severely damaged sills and floor beams. Architect and Western Regional Committee member Terry Hallock was called upon to help with project specifications and paint color selection.

Last year, Caffrey and his crew, Assistant Superintendent Bill Girardi, Jr., and Maintenance

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## Dear Trustees:

Are we having an identity crisis? — again — or still? Have you ever met someone who has never heard of The Trustees of Reservations? I have, all too often. They ask, "You work for who? . . . The Trustees of what? . . . Is that part of the Bureau of Indian Affairs? Not the travel business, . . . banking maybe?" As Yogi Berra once said, or was it Casey Stengel, "It's déjà vu, all over again!" How annoying!

After more than a century of conservation work, after all our successes (76 reservations and 125 conservation restrictions protecting more than 30,000 acres at last count), and after all our efforts in the last few years to spread the good word, I am astounded by how many people still have not heard of The Trustees. I'm getting just a little fed up with our being the best kept secret in Massachusetts.

But then, maybe I'm overstating the problem. It's true that the same folks who look blankly at one's mention of The Trustees of Reservations, react excitedly a moment later. "Crane's Beach? — I go there all the time!" or "Castle Hill? — what a great summer festival!" or "Wasque? — that's by far the best fishing spot on the Islands!" or "Bartholomew's Cobble has the most amazing variety of plant and bird life in New England!" or "Naumkeag? — what a fabulous landscape!" and "I know The Old Manse . . . that's Hawthorne's house next to the bridge in Concord" or "World's End? — I've been there! . . . that's owned by the State, isn't it?" In short, many of our properties are well known. All are well loved. But none are widely understood to be held in trust by a private non-profit organization that depends on memberships, contributions, and admissions for its survival. We have a lot more educating to do on this score.

The next most annoying question that comes up, after our identity is established, goes something like this: "Why don't you guys get together and form a single organization? I get so darn many appeals from conservation groups. It would be so much easier if I only had to write one check."

A lot cheaper too!, he decides not to say.

All of us are deluged with requests for contributions from organizations that appear to have similar goals. However, speaking for one such group, I am very aware of the differences in our missions, even among land trusts. Each group occupies a distinct niche and each of us has supporters who care enormously about our particular cause.

Goals of different organizations may be compatible, even complimentary, but our programs hardly ever compete. This is because conservation groups in Massachusetts are quite good at communicating and working cooperatively. We know there is a big job to be done and we all need to help each other out.

Fundraising, however, tends to be more competitive and less cooperative. While we have been known to collaborate with our colleagues on foundation and corporate grant proposals, we are characteristically protective of our individual donors. And why not! The answer to the question of fundraising is quite clear: we have worked hard over the years to earn your support and we are determined to keep it.

Frederic Winthrop, Jr.  
Director



The Trustees of Reservations is dedicated to preserving for public use and enjoyment properties of exceptional scenic, historic and ecological value across Massachusetts. Founded in 1891, it is the world's oldest land trust.

Today, The Trustees own and manage 76 properties, totaling 19,500 acres, and protect an additional 9,700 acres through the use of conservation restrictions.

The Trustees of Reservations is a private, non-profit organization and relies for support entirely upon membership dues, contributions, admission fees, grants and endowments.

Frederic Winthrop, Jr.  
Director

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Deputy Director for Finance  
and Administration

Richard T. Howe  
Deputy Director for  
Property Management

Lisa McFadden  
Deputy Director  
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Marah Ren  
Newsletter Editors



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establish a permanent property management fund. This fund-raising effort is spearheaded by volunteers Paulie Emilson and Eleanor Norris. When fundraising is complete, the property will be transferred to The Trustees and will open to the public, establishing The Trustees' 77th Reservation.

Frederic Winthrop, Jr., Director of The Trustees, encouraged the assembled guests to help establish Two Mile Reservation. Noting that this was not the grand opening, but indeed a preview, Winthrop encouraged all to join the cause. Over \$21,000 has already been raised from over 221 donors. When the \$50,000 mark is reached, a private donor has pledged \$25,000 to put the campaign over the top.

Asked what will happen if The Trustees are not successful, Fred Winthrop replied, "We've never thought about not being successful. We must be successful! No need to make a 'hard sell' here — the property speaks for itself. Our friends just need to come have a look."

Virtually everyone who attended the sneak preview was delighted to know that the property would never be developed. "Wonderful," "marvelous," and "fabulous" were some of the comments overheard during the walk through the property. To prepare for the event, The Trustees had help from volunteers during a North River clean-up day sponsored by the North and South Rivers Watershed Association.

The Marshfield Hills Community Association has embraced the Two Mile Reservation effort as a cause to preserve what's special about North Marshfield. At the sneak preview, vice president Joan Bacon presented The Trustees with a check for \$1,200.00, the amount raised by a raffle held over Memorial Day weekend. "We're delighted to help with such a worthwhile effort and look forward to the day when the property will be open to the public," said Bacon.

The North River is one of Massachusetts' very special places. The North and South Rivers are designated national natural landmarks, federal recognition that the area possesses exceptional value to the nation's natural heritage. The North River has also been designated a Scenic River under state law.

In 1614, Captain John Smith explored the North River. On board was the man who six years later was to become the pilot for the *Mayflower*. So impressed

was he by the qualities of the North River that he attempted to lead the Pilgrims there, once he realized that he had brought the *Mayflower* to New England rather than Virginia. Unfortunately, he proved as unsuccessful at finding the North River as he had been at finding Virginia and he was still searching for it when the Founding Fathers decided to disembark at Plymouth harbor.

The name "Two Mile" is a reference to an ancient land grant. In 1640, the town of Scituate, needing salt marsh hay, petitioned for a grant of a parcel of land two miles long and one mile wide along the river. The

name stuck, although the grant to Scituate was removed in Marshfield's favor in 1788.

Although Marshfield is today primarily a residential community, the North River formed the backbone of its industrial past as a center of shipbuilding. For more than two hundred years, with the boom years between 1750 until about 1820, twenty-five distinct shipyards operated on the North River. By 1831 there were only nine; forty years later there were none. Today there is hardly a trace of any of this industrial history with the

river appearing pristine and natural.

In making the gift of land along the river, Mrs. Whelan smiles when she says, "Now I know no one will ever build a house there." She explains that she comes by her conservation interests naturally as her father was a "Trees for the Future" enthusiast. Mrs. Whelan had owned the Two Mile property for fifty years before donating it to MLCT.

Her gift of land continues a trend of conservation minded gifts to The Trustees that protect the North River, including the recent addition of the McMullan Woods to the Norris Reservation and donation of the Hastings conservation restriction. In addition, a riverfront property in Marshfield was protected by MLCT through a purchase, restriction and resale project. With the establishment of Two Mile Reservation, The Trustees will protect over 350 acres along the North River. 🌿

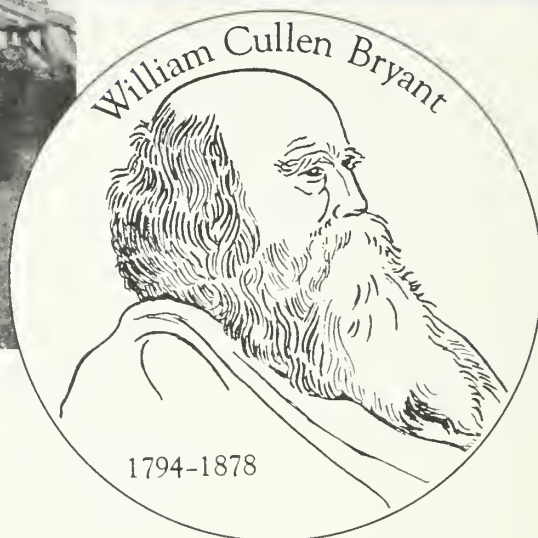
—Valerie Talmage, Land Protection Specialist

*North Marshfield and Two Mile still retain a feeling of another era. Although modern development has intruded upon the stretches of fields and wood lots, and the extension of Route 3 has brought teeming traffic to its borders, this area of colonial houses and millponds still remains relatively quiet, a few farms are under pasturage and cultivation, and the sun still sets in spectacular crimsons and mauves over the curving ribbon of the upper North River valley. It is but a moment of time since the Indian "drove his birchen boat along the woodhung shore."*

Cynthia Hagar Krusell & Betty Magoun Bates,  
*Marshfield, A Town of Villages 1640-1990*  
(Historical Research Associates,  
Marshfield Hills, 1990), 201.



*Turn-of-the-century  
at William Cullen  
Bryant's summer retreat.*



*Continued from front page*

Technician and Project Director Joel Moon, began the enormous task of replacing the damaged structural members, strengthening the fieldstone and brick foundation of the house, and digging and filling foundation trenches to improve drainage. This year, the crew is finishing up structural and utility repairs while Joe Reed of Stephentown, NY lays the new roof, and J.L. Taylor of Northampton, a specialist in the painting of historic buildings, tackles preparation and painting of the large house with its complex Victorian trim. To support these projects, House Administrator Cindy Volk, the Bryant Homestead Committee, and many community volunteers continue to raise money through the Homestead Crafts Fair and Christmas events.

The Homestead restoration project has shown the dedication of our able staff — and given Bryant's home a new lease on life. This progress will be celebrated on August 20th with a 200th birthday celebration. Volunteers and staff are planning a day of old-fashioned fun, including a Victorian picnicking competition with participants invited to come in period costume! Poetry readings, a parade of carriages, a grand potluck supper, and music on the lawn will add to this festive event. Prints of Bryant's sketch of the Homestead, commemorative mugs, and bicentennial postage cancellations will be available. For complete information or to register for the event, call Cindy Volk at 413-634-2244.

In coming years we hope to continue with this important work at the Homestead through implementation of an historic landscape plan, an enhanced interpretation of the entire property, and needed conservation and restoration of the interiors. ♡

—Elizabeth Redmond, Associate Director  
for Historic Resources



## Take in the sculpture show at Naumkeag!

Featuring works by Alexander Calder, Nancy Graves, David Smith, George Rickey, and other well-known artists, this special exhibit has been installed in the garden at Naumkeag for the 1994 season *only*. Works were chosen for both their quality and their compatibility with the garden. This is a unique opportunity to enjoy works such as Richard Stasiewicz's, featured above, in a glorious pastoral setting. The exhibit is open 10-5 PM, Tuesday — Sunday and Monday holidays through Columbus Day, October 10th. Members free. Call 413-298-3239 for more information. ♡



# C ❖ A ❖ L ❖ E ❖ N ❖ D ❖ A ❖ R

## A Listing of Updated and Newly Scheduled Events



### DATE CHANGE

**SAT-SUN, AUG 20-21**

#### **Revolutionary War Encampment**

*Col. Ashley House, Ashley Falls.*

413-298-3239

Originally scheduled for the weekend of AUG 27-28, the American Revolutionary War Encampment will be held one week earlier. Experience the flavor of camp life during the colonial rebellion. Military drills, artillery demonstrations, cooking and crafts are part of this unique experience. Saturday, 11 AM to 4 PM, and Sunday, 11 AM to 3 PM. Adults \$3, children 6-12 \$1.

### S ❖ E ❖ P ❖ T ❖ E ❖ M ❖ B ❖ E ❖ R

**SAT, SEPT 3**

#### **An Evening on the River with Rene Laubach**

*Bartholomew's Cobble, Ashley Falls. 413-229-8600*

Join well-known naturalist and author Rene Laubach and naturalist Don Reid in this adventure on the Housatonic River. Evening is the peak time for wildlife and solitude on the river. We will also spend time observing and counting common nighthawks for migration data collection. 5 to 7:30 PM. Pre-registration required. Cost of program includes canoe rental. Member adults \$20, children 10-16 \$10. Non-member adults \$25, children \$12.

**TUES, SEPT 6**

#### **The Great House Tours**

*Castle Hill, Ipswich. 508-356-4351*

House tours of the 59-room, Stuart-style mansion between 1 and 4 PM. Members free. Non-members \$5. Tea service is offered for an additional \$3. Please call to arrange a private house tour for groups of 15 or more.

**SAT-SUN, SEPT 10-11**

#### **Ballet Al Fresco**

*The Old Manse, Concord. 508-369-3909*

The second annual staging of the North Atlantic Ballet Company's production of "The Scarlet Letter" on the lawn of the Old Manse. 2 PM. Please call Stephanie Guidetti for information.

**SAT, SEPT 10**

#### **Birds of Hurlburt's Hill**

*Bartholomew's Cobble, Ashley Falls. 413-229-8600*

Naturalist Don Reid will lead a hike up to the top of Hurlburt's Hill. Along the way we will concentrate on migrating song birds and their life histories. At the top, we will settle down to enjoy the view and observe, identify, and learn about the life histories of migrating hawks. Bring a snack and something to drink. 9 AM to noon. Member adults \$3, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$5, children \$2.

**SAT, SEPT 10**

#### **Northern Lights**

*Castle Hill, Ipswich. 508-356-4351*

Northern Lights' "newgrass" sound has been delighting audiences since 1978. Combining bluegrass, country, folk, and cajun, *Northern Lights* produces a musical vision that is at the forefront of progressive bluegrass music. Gates open at 5 PM with picnicking in the Tower Garden. Performance begins at 7 PM. Adults \$19, children 4-12 \$5. Members receive a 10% discount.

**SUN, SEPT 11**

#### **Wildlife and the Land**

*Bartholomew's Cobble, Ashley Falls. 413-229-8600*

Tim Flanagan, biology professor and well-known local naturalist, will lead you onto the Cobble and talk about how it all comes together! How does wildlife relate to its surroundings? From birds to geology, it really is all connected! 9 AM to noon. Member adults \$3, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$5, children \$2.

**TUES, SEPT 13**

#### **The Great House Tours**

*Castle Hill, Ipswich. 508-356-4351*

House tours of the 59-room, Stuart-style mansion between 1 and 4 PM. Members free. Non-members \$5. Tea service is offered for an additional \$3. Please call to arrange a private house tour for groups of 15 or more.

**TUES, SEPT 13**

#### **Propagation Workshop**

*Long Hill, Beverly. 508-921-1944*

Experienced propagator Lillabeth Wies will demonstrate softwood and hardwood cuttings, as well as grafting and layering. Bring sharp hand pruners and take home hardwood cuttings. Space is limited. Reservations required. 10 AM. \$20.

**WED, SEPT 14**

#### **Joey: A Kangaroo's Tale**

*Castle Hill, Ipswich. 508-356-4351*

Set in the Land Down Under, *Joey* is the story of a late-blooming kangaroo, his precocious sister, and a single act of heroism that prompts Joey to grow up. Ha'penny Theatre combines puppetry, costumed characters, and live actors to create the "best children's production of the year" 1989. 4 PM. Adults \$11, children 4-12 \$5. Members receive a 10% discount.

**SAT, SEPT 17**

#### **Hawks over Monument Mountain**

*Monument Mountain, Great Barrington. 413-229-8600*

Monument Mountain can be one of the best places in Southern Berkshire County to observe the early migration of raptors. We will meet at Monument Mountain, hike slowly to the summit, and enjoy incredible views. Naturalist Don Reid will assist

with hawk identification and explain their life histories. Bring lunch and something to drink. 9 AM to 2 PM. Call for additional information. Member adults: \$3, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$5, children \$2.

### SUN, SEPT 18

#### Outdoor Concert/ Country Picnic

*Albert F. Norris Reservation, Norwell. 617-821-2977*

Bring a picnic and join us for a grand afternoon of musical entertainment. A pumpkin raffle and popcorn will be offered. The day will conclude with a tour of the property. 1 to 4 pm. Member adults and children free. Non-member adults \$3.

### SUN, SEPT 25

#### Greenwood Farm Dedication Ceremony

*Greenwood Farm, Ipswich.*

*508-356-4351 or 508-356-4755.*

Join us for the dedication and grand opening of this beautiful reservation! Dedication ceremony at 10 AM, followed by guided walks through fields and salt marsh. Free admission and refreshments. Follow signs to the entrance road and parking. Everyone welcome! **Directions:** Rt. 1A to the Ipswich Town Green. Traveling south on 1A, turn left onto County Rd; or traveling north, continue on County Road at the junction of Rt. 133. Right onto East Street. Continue past Ipswich Town landing on right. Bear left onto Jeffrey's Neck Road. After ½ mile, look for entrance sign on right.

## HOG ISLAND DAY

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18th

*Hog Island, Essex and Ipswich. 508-921-1944*

We provide transportation to this special island where you can embark on a self-guided walking tour. Bring a picnic to enjoy while you listen to musical entertainment by *The Hounds*, acoustic music with a bite.

Meet at Crane Beach between 9:30 and 10:30 AM. Parking included with registration fee. Member adults \$15, children 6-12 \$3.

Please register soon, as space is limited. Members are welcome to bring non-member guests. A confirmation letter with directions will be sent to you upon receipt of your reservation.

❖ Number in party \_\_\_\_ x \$15 per adult/  
\$3 per child ages 6 to 12

TTOR Donor # \_\_\_\_\_

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone(\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

Total amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail this coupon with your check to:**

Membership Office, The Trustees of Reservations,  
572 Essex Street, Beverly, MA 01915-1530.

## REGISTER TODAY!

FRI-SUN, SEPT 23-25

### THE NATURAL HISTORY OF CAPE COD

Explore areas of Cape Cod rarely visited by tourists! Learn about barrier beaches and coastal botany. Follow the migration of shorebirds, learning their life histories as we identify them. Cruise off the coast of Chatham and observe seals and their behavior up close and personal. The adventure goes on and on. For more information, please call or write Don Reid at Bartholomew's Cobble, P. O. Box 128, Ashley Falls, MA 01222. Telephone 413-229-8600. **A minimum number of people must be registered by Thursday, September 1 for the trip to be held.**

### TUES, SEPT 27

#### Italian Gardens

*Long Hill, Beverly. 508-921-1944*

Italian Renaissance gardens . . . as a fusion of nature and art. Edith Wharton proclaimed that "the Italian garden does not exist for its flowers; its flowers exist for it. . . ." Art and European history teacher Fellowes Davis will analyze the architectural inspiration at Villa Lante. Coffee at 9:30 AM; lecture at 10 AM. Space is limited. Reservations required. Members \$10. Non-members \$12.

### WED, SEPT 28

#### That's No Fluke!

*Castle Hill, Ipswich. 508-356-4351*

Pastiche presents a story concert about a time-traveling young girl and her little sister and their adventures on a whaling ship in the year 1855. The performers then lead the audience in a question-and-answer "game show," in which whale watch certificates are given as prizes. 4 PM. Adults \$11, children \$5. Members receive a 10% discount.

## O♦C♦T♦O♦B♦E♦R

### SAT, OCT 1

#### Benefit Auction

*Greenwood Farm, Ipswich. 508-356-4755*

Noted auctioneer Ron Bourgeault will auction more than 300 lots of antiques and fine arts from the estate of Miss Sally Dodge and other donors, for the benefit of Greenwood Farm. Come join the fun under the tent on this spectacular 213-acre property. Preview 8 AM. Auction 10 AM. Free admission. All are welcome.

### SAT, OCT 1

#### Historic Bike Tour

*Col. Ashley House, Ashley Falls. 413-229-8600*

Join Mark Baer, Historic House Administrator, for a bicycle tour that will visit the homes, businesses, agricultural fields, and runs of the Housatonic River owned and used by the Ashley family. We will begin with a tour of the Col. Ashley House, built in 1735, then bike the roads traveled for generations by Ashleys, see the vestiges of their history, and enjoy



the fall colors. Please provide your own bicycle and helmet. Member adults \$3, children 12-16 \$1. Non-member adults \$5, children \$2. Please call for complete information and to register.

#### **SAT, OCT 8**

##### **Authors Series - Tom Tynning**

*Bartholomew's Cobble, Ashley Falls. 413-229-8600*

Tom Tynning, Master Naturalist for Massachusetts Audubon Society and author of *A Stokes Nature Guide to Amphibians and Reptiles*, will be at Bartholomew's Cobble to autograph his book for you. Copies will be available for sale. Following the autograph session, Tom will lead a natural history hike on the Cobble. 1 PM. Member adults \$3, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$5, children \$2.



## **ROCK HOUSE FALL FOLIAGE FESTIVAL**

**Saturday- Monday, October 8-10**  
**West Brookfield, 508-840-4446**

The weekend begins with **free** guided natural history tours of the property on Saturday and Sunday from 11 AM-3 PM. A Monday morning canoe ride on the Quabog is followed by a noon-time barbeque and a late afternoon fall foliage train ride up the Ware River Valley. Additional information will be sent upon request. **Please note: Registrations must be received by September 26th for the Monday event.** Limited canoe rentals: \$35/canoe. Member adults and seniors \$10, children 6-12 \$5. Non-member adults \$12.50, children \$5. Train fare will be additional.

#### **TUES, OCT 11**

##### **Ideas to Steal from Good Gardens**

*Long Hill, Beverly. 508-921-1944*

Creating a satisfying garden requires thoughtful selection of plants and a design highlighting their attributes. Founders of the Irish Garden School, Helen Dillon and Jim Reynolds, will present examples of inspired plantings that combine to form lovely gardens. 10 AM. Members \$10. Non-members \$12. This lecture will be held at Castle Hill, Ipswich. Limited seating. Reservations required.

#### **SUN, OCT 16**

##### **Fall Foliage Picnic**

*Rocky Woods Reservation, Medfield. 617-821-2977*

Bring a picnic and enjoy the fall foliage at one of our most popular properties. Guided walks, games for children, and tractor-drawn hayrides will be offered.

The Marine Modelers Club will also be on hand to demonstrate scale-model, remote-controlled boats on Chickering Pond. Noon to 4 pm. Member adults and children free. Non-member adults \$2.

#### **FRI, OCT 21**

##### **The Natural History of Bartholomew's Cobble**

*Bartholomew's Cobble, Ashley Falls. 413-229-8600*

Join well-known naturalist, biology professor and ornithologist Dick Ferrin for this adventure into the natural history of Bartholomew's Cobble. Dick will guide you through the Cobble and speak about the area's natural wonders. From trees to birds and anything in between. 10 AM to noon. Member adults \$3, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$5, children \$2.

#### **SAT, OCT 22**

##### **Halloween at The Old Manse**

*The Old Manse, Concord. 508-369-3909*

The ghost of Mary Moody Emerson, who was an eyewitness to the battle of April 19, 1775, will call forth the ghosts of the American Revolution to haunt their Victorian descendants. 5-8 PM. Member adults \$4, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$6, children \$3. Seniors \$3.

#### **WED-THURS, OCT 26-27**

##### **Halloween at Castle Hill**

*Castle Hill, Ipswich. 508-356-4351*

"Raven and the Village Without Daylight" is the tale of an Eskimo village where the sun never shines, the greedy sky people who want to keep all the light for themselves, and the Raven who sets out to capture some light for the villagers. Puppeteers Will Cabell and Susan Ackley combine hand puppets and rod marionettes with a unique "shell" stage to create a puppet show unlike any other. Following the performance, cookies and punch are served in true "trick-or-treat" fashion. Costumes are encouraged. 4 PM. Adults \$11, children 6-12 \$5. Members receive a 10% discount.

## **N♦O♦V♦E♦M♦B♦E♦R**

#### **SAT, NOV 12**

##### **Fall on Bartholomew's Cobble**

*Bartholomew's Cobble, Ashley Falls. 413-229-8600*

Join naturalist Don Reid as we explore the natural history of Bartholomew's Cobble in the fall. Observe nature, and learn how nature prepares for the rigors of winter, which is right around the corner. 10 AM to noon. Member adults \$3, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$5, children \$2.

#### **SAT, NOV 19**

##### **Waterfowl on the River**

*Bartholomew's Cobble, Ashley Falls. 413-229-8600*

Mid-November can be a great time to search for migrating ducks. We will walk along the Housatonic River, a well-known resting stop and flyway for these migrants. Naturalist Don Reid will help with the search and their identification. The life histories of these beautiful animals will be discussed. 10 AM to noon. Member adults \$3, children 6-12 \$1. Non-member adults \$5, children \$2.

# Trustees establish new giving society

The Standing Committee of The Trustees of Reservations has established **The Charles Eliot Society** as the organization's premier giving society. **The Charles Eliot Society** will honor leadership gifts to The Trustees of Reservations annual giving program. There are three levels of membership in the society:

Benefactor .....	\$10,000
Patron .....	5,000
Sponsor .....	2,500

Charles Eliot founded The Trustees in 1891 and our first giving society was named for the year of our founding. The second and senior society now honors our founder. Both societies were founded to emphasize the importance of regular annual giving at generous levels to provide the resources needed to meet the operating expenses of The Trustees.



*Charles Eliot*

*The 1891 Society*, founded in 1980, currently has over 300 members; they provided more than a half-million dollars in annual support last year. In spite of this generous record,

the fact remains that today it takes a gift of \$2,517 to equal the purchasing power of a 1980 gift of \$1,000. Addressing this fact, **The Charles Eliot Society** seeks to build upon past success and encourage those who are able to give as generously as possible.

Founding members of **The Charles Eliot Society**, those who join in the first year, will receive special recognition, and will continue to be recognized as founding members in the Annual Report for as long as they contribute at this level. They will enjoy a unique relationship with The Trustees.

Members will be:

- honored at a special thank-you event each year, in addition to being invited to all *1891 Society* events.
- given priority booking on the Fall Field Trip.
- offered the opportunity to participate in private tours of new reservations, inspections of conservation restrictions and potential acquisitions.
- honored in many other ways for their extraordinary commitment to the mission of The Trustees.

Membership in **The Charles Eliot Society** and *The 1891 Society* is open to all who share Eliot's vision and are willing to make a significant annual commitment to support the work of The Trustees of Reservations. ♡



*David Rimmer, Northeast Regional Ecologist, leads a tour over the marshes to Diamond Stage during this year's 1891 Society event at Greenwood Farm, Ipswich.*

## Wishing for...

- ♦ **Volunteers Needed.** The Trustees are looking for volunteers to staff our Resource Center display during the National Trust for Historic Preservation National Conference in October (*see article on page 9*). The Resource Center will be open Wednesday-Friday, October 26-28, at the Park Plaza Hotel in Boston. If you could make a commitment of four hours and enjoy talking to fellow preservationists about The Trustees, handing out literature, and selling memberships, please call Membership Director Susan McGarvey or Public Information Director Lisa McFadden at 508-921-1944. Hope to see you there!
- ♦ **Seeking an Illustrator.** The Public Information Department is interested in working with an illustrator or graphic artist who would volunteer to produce small line drawings for *Special Places* and other interpretive materials produced by The Trustees. Great opportunity for an art student to build a portfolio! Please call Lisa McFadden or Marah Ren at 508-921-1944.
- ♦ **Office Help Wanted.** The Membership & Development Office is looking for volunteers to work three hours a week minimum on clerical tasks, including filing and data entry. Beverly office. Days and hours flexible. Please call Susan McGarvey or Darlene Walsh for more information at 508-921-1944.
- ♦ **Fine Home for a Security Safe.** The staff at Noanet Woodlands needs a small security safe in which to store two-way radios. Please call Mark Bailey at 508-785-0339 if you have one to spare.
- ♦ **Woodworking tools needed for Greenwood Farm.** 10-12" table saw, jointer, thickness planer, ban saw, drill press, sawzall, skillsaw, cordless drill. Please call Hilary Hamilton at 356-4755 if you can help.



# Linking open space with outer space

For thousands of years, travelers and cartographers looked to the night sky to aid their navigation and map making. Celestial navigation had its problems however. Accuracy was fair, at best, and cloudy nights would shut down the mapping system.

Twentieth century technology has revolutionized navigation and mapping. The Trustees entered this new world when we put together a Geographic Information System (GIS) that allowed us to map and analyze information about our properties. However, our ability to describe precisely and map the position of a specific feature (for example, a trail, or the location of a rare plant) was still limited because of the cost of traditional survey methods. Once again, electronic gadgetry offered a solution.

Thanks to the incredible generosity of an anonymous donor, The Trustees has been able to acquire this new equipment, which is known as a **Global Positioning System (GPS)**. GPS uses satellites and computers to pinpoint accurately positions anywhere on earth. With the added feature of a hand-held computer, we can also store information about the location we are mapping.



*Lisa Vernegaard and Dave Rimmer map a piping plover nest site at Crane Beach. With precise mapping of nest sites, the staff hopes to learn more about shorebird ecology.*

Since acquiring GPS this spring, the staff has been taking full advantage of its capabilities. Armed with a space-age looking backpack, antenna, and portable computer, staff members have been at several reservations to map different features. For example, as we walked the trails at the Rock House, our GPS collected data that would define the line of the trail. Back in the office, GIS specialist Kendra Crosby down-loaded and corrected the data, and integrated the information into our new trail map. Thus, the days of "eyeballing" certain features on maps are gone.

GPS will also help us accurately map information that is critical to the planning and management of our properties. We have started to map the location of

ecological resources, such as shorebird nest sites, vernal pools, and rare plant communities. With improved mapping of sensitive features, we increase our ability to protect and manage those areas.

If you would like to learn more about how The Trustees use GPS, please call Kendra Crosby at 508-921-1944. ♥



*Stan Piatczyc, Kendra Crosby, and Don Reid map the top of Monument Mountain. Don holds the antenna, which intercepts satellite signals and passes them down to the small computer. Kendra programs the computer to log information about the feature we are mapping.*

## National Trust Conference in Boston

The National Trust for Historic Preservation will hold its 48th National Preservation Conference in Boston this fall, October 26-30. With a theme of "Preservation, Economics and Community Rebirth," the five-day event is expected to attract more than 2,500 preservationists from across the country.

The Trustees of Reservations will be strongly represented during the conference. Members of our field staff will be participating in a full-day workshop sponsored by Mount Auburn Cemetery on Tuesday, October 25th. "Historic Landscape Preservation: Getting to Treatment" will examine case studies that illustrate the current state of historic landscape preservation.

The Trustees, in concert with The Trust for Public Lands, will also offer a session on Saturday, October 29. "Saving Special Places: A Workshop on Selecting and Carrying Out Land Conservation Projects" will provide specialized training for individuals interested in learning about land trusts and land acquisition techniques.

In addition, The Trustees will be represented with a display in the Resource Center for the conference.

For a conference program and registration form, call the National Trust for Historic Preservation at 202-673-4141. ♥

## Annual giving top priority

The Chairman of the Standing Committee Norton Sloan has declared The Trustees' annual giving program to be the organization's highest priority. "With a successful capital campaign behind us, it is time to concentrate on building annual support for our dual mission of preserving our 76 reservations and reaching out, through our Land Conservation Center, to protect additional property," he said.

The governing board has gotten us off to a fast start. It established a new giving society, *The Charles Eliot Society*, to encourage leadership gifts and, led by the Executive and Development Committees, each member of the board has made an increased commitment to this year's annual giving program.



*Leaders of the annual giving program. Rear from left, Harry Guild, Founding Chairman of The Charles Eliot Society and Jack Kinney, Co-Chairman of The 1891 Society. Front, Susanna Colloredo-Mansfeld, Co-Chairman of The 1891 Society and, Susanna Weld, Chairman of the Annual Grassroots Appeal.*

The need is great. We do a remarkable job of caring for our 76 reservations, but each year there are too many things left undone because funds are short. Each year our land protection specialists have a growing list of lost opportunities because of limited resources.

Your annual gift can help change all that. It can help us to utilize the best ideas from many disciplines—ecology, archaeology, forestry, museum studies, landscape design material culture—to preserve and interpret these special places and make them available to you. It can strengthen our land protection program to enable us to work with more landowners, local land trusts, and communities, so

we won't miss so many opportunities to protect important properties.

Please help us keep up the pace toward increased annual giving. When you receive your annual appeal letter, read it carefully and respond as generously as you can. If you usually make an annual gift, please consider increasing your gift this year. If you have never given to the annual giving program, please do so now.

We are counting on you to help keep The Trustees on the job, protecting the best of the Massachusetts landscape! 🌳

## Estabrook Woods

*Continued from back page*

Comparative Zoology as the Concord Field Station) and Middlesex School (300 acres). In an encouraging and clearly worded letter this June, Harvard President Neil L. Rudenstine and the Museum's Director, James McCarthy, reconfirmed Harvard's "public charitable obligation" to use its land for field research and educational purposes, as intended by the donors who funded the Concord Field Station. The letter endorsed this effort and pledged that the Harvard property would be secure for its intended purposes if the land trusts succeed in conserving 400 acres of buffering land.

Also in June, Middlesex School committed itself to placing about 53 acres of its Lowell Road campus under perpetual conservation restrictions to be recorded by The Trustees of Reservations when the 400-acre target has been met.

Thus, the Estabrook partnership faces an unusual challenge. By securing 400 acres of buffer land under conservation restrictions, we can ensure that the ecological, scenic, and historic integrity of Estabrook Woods will be forever preserved. The campaign will take place this fall, beginning with an appeal to key landowners to give conservation restrictions to the land trusts or The Trustees. In addition, the partnership will have to raise about \$40,000 to defray expenses of securing key properties and to establish a fund for monitoring and enforcement. 🌳

—Wesley T. Ward, Director, Land Conservation Center



## CONVERSATIONS WITH SPECIAL PEOPLE

*Elliot M. Surkin is a member of the Advisory Council and has been chairman of the Chappaquiddick Committee since 1986. Not resting on his laurels as Volunteer of the Year in 1992, he recently led the successful fund raising drive to construct a staff house at Wasque. Special Places talked with Elliot in his office at the Boston law firm of Hill & Barlow. ♥*



*Elliot M. Surkin, Chairman, Chappaquiddick Committee*

**Special Places:** When did you first discover Chappaquiddick?

**Elliot Surkin:** My wife Carol grew up going to Edgartown and in the early 70s we began renting a place on the island during the summer. The second house we rented turned out to be Lee Brown's on Chappaquiddick. One day we walked out on the adjacent property and said, "Wow!, wouldn't it be great to own this?" We built our house on that property in '81.

**SP:** What have been other high points of your chairmanship?

**ES:** I've met a lot of . . . wonderful people with the non-profits I've been involved with but I've really, really enjoyed working with Fred Winthrop, Chris Kennedy and, in a very particular way, Tom Foster, because that was the beginning of my tenure and he was also feeling his way around. He and I developed a very special relationship. So, the people have been a high point.

We've built an understanding on Chappaquiddick between The Trustees and the Chappaquiddickers about how this beach, which has been here forever as property, is going to be managed. The word "managed" is a very difficult word because mostly people want it to be managed in a way that it appears unmanaged. People get very nervous about signs, fences, and gates. I think there's been terrific success in bringing all those different constituencies together on Chappaquiddick during the past eight years and I'm particularly happy about that.

The Dike Bridge has been very complicated because people who are very important to The Trustees take very different views about the bridge. And it has been the worst governmental process I have ever witnessed. And I've witnessed some goodies. . . .

Relationships with the Town of Edgartown are complicated. At times we've even had very bad relations with the Chappaquiddick Island Association. Relations are now very positive. These things become lower than low points because you go to the place where you love to relax and suddenly, there's all this tension and fighting and you say, "Why am I doing this?"

**SP:** Can you answer that question?

**ES:** Yes, because I love that place and every time I think I'm going to stop doing it, Carol reminds me that somebody has to do it, or otherwise it will all go to the dogs — not my dog, whose name, by the way, is Pogues. ♥

**SP:** What are your favorite places on Chappy?

**ES:** My favorite place is my house. It looks out on a saltmarsh that's a marvelous place with a tidal pond in the middle of it. There are lots of birds and it changes every minute. Even the shape of the pond changes. So, that's my favorite place.

My second favorite place is right out on the tip of Cape Poge, called the "Gut," where there is just that little inlet coming through, — all the way around. . . I like the process of going there and I love to fish there, because often you can be alone. It's so beautiful that it's really overwhelming. . . . Swans fly over your head while you're fishing. . . suddenly you hear a big whoosh from its wings and it flies quite low over your head, then the moment goes by, and you think, "That's quite a spectacular experience."

**SP:** How do you see your role as chairman of the Chappaquiddick Committee?

**ES:** I have seen it as part of my role to make the local committee function in a different way: to convince local people that they must share their dominion over the properties with The Trustees, while at the same time convincing The Trustees that they owe this group respect. The local group can't make all the decisions but The Trustees, the central deciding agency, should respect this group in making decisions. Respect is a very complicated word to me; so I don't know if it's a veto or if it's consulting, it varies.

**SP:** Has your role of mediating between the local committee and The Trustees worked so far?

**ES:** I think the proof was in the pudding of raising money for the house. Of the kinds of projects that this group would like to give money to, this was not the most appealing, building a new superintendent's house. But people really were very generous, which I think was support for the organization.



*Albert M. Creighton, Jr. was elected President of The Trustees of Reservations by the Standing Committee at its May meeting. He will fill the unexpired term of Hall Peterson, who died in March. Al has co-chaired The 1891 Society since 1989. Long active in Trustee affairs, he also serves on the Land Conservation Committee.*

**IT'S NOT TOO LATE!**

We are still accepting donations of antiques and fine arts objects to be included in the October 1 auction for the benefit of Greenwood Farm. Proceeds will help fund restoration of the early 18th-century Paine House at Greenwood Farm as well as add to the endowment for the preservation of this 213-acre property on the Ipswich River. Donations to the auction are tax-deductible gifts-in-kind to The Trustees. If you have items to donate, please call Elizabeth Redmond at 508-921-1944.

## The Trustees

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# A Partnership for Estabrook Woods

"What a wild and rich domain that Easterbrooks Country! Not a cultivated, hardly a cultivable field in it, and yet it delights all natural persons, and feeds more still . . . think of the miles of huckleberries, and of barberries, and of wild apples, so far . . . resorted to by men and beasts."

—Henry David Thoreau  
*Journal*, October 20, 1857

This summer, The Trustees joined a unique partnership to secure permanent protection of undeveloped land within the historic Estabrook Woods in Concord and Carlisle. This four-square-mile area lies north of The Trustees' Old Manse and the Minuteman National Park, west of the Great Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, and east of Concord's Spencer Brook Valley.

Thoreau identified four "great wild tracts," in Concord, including Estabrook Woods. Referring specifically to this area in 1859, Thoreau wrote, "I think each town should have a park or rather a primitive forest, of five hundred or a thousand acres, — where a stick should never be cut for

fuel — nor for the navy, nor to make wagons, but stand and decay, for instruction and recreation." Now, 135 years later we have what may be our last chance to secure the future of the Woods and make Thoreau's vision a reality for future generations.

Assisted by The Trustees' Land Conservation Center, the Estabrook partnership includes the Concord Land Conservation Trust, the Carlisle Conservation Foundation, Middlesex School, and Harvard University. Its basic goals are twofold:

- ◆ Using conservation restrictions and other perpetual commitments, to secure permanent protection of at least 1,100 acres of undeveloped land within the historic area known as the Estabrook Woods, and
- ◆ To secure permanent protection of a conservation corridor from the Spencer Brook Valley to the Great Meadows Wildlife Refuge on the Concord River.

Key to this effort are recent decisions by the two large institutional owners of Estabrook land, Harvard University (672 acres held by Harvard's Museum of

*Continued on page 10*